

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 NRC-05 /066 W
-----025349 291826Z /41

O 291809Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0359
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T USNATO 03220

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, MNUC, NPG
SUBJECT: NPG: CANADIAN COMMENTS ON HIGH LEVEL GROUP REPORT

REF: STATE 74758 (DTG 230135Z MAR 78)
THERE FOLLOW CANADIAN COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT NPG
HIGH LEVEL GROUP REPORT. THESE COMMENTS ARE BASED ON SEC-
TIONS VI AND VII (REFTAL) CIRCULATED ON MARCH 23. BEGIN
TEXT OF CANADIAN COMMENTS: IN VIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES
IN WHICH WE FIND OURSELVES WHERE A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF
TIME REMAINS, WE BELIEVE NPG PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
SHOULD BE PROVIDED MAXIMUM TIME TO CONSIDER THE HLG REPORT
AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE 1977 OTTAWA MINISTERIAL MINUTE. WE
ARE THEREFORE PREPARED TO SEE THE HLG REPORT, WHICH
INCLUDES REDRAFTED SECTIONS VI AND VII, GO FORWARD FOR CON-
SIDERATION OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO THE DEAD-
LINE OF THE APRIL NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING. AT THE SAME
TIME THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT
THAT IT WAS APPARENTLY NOT POSSIBLE TO REDRAFT IN TIME FOR
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CIRCULATION PARAGRAPH 34 AND SECTION VIII AS DISCUSSED
DURING THE MARCH 17 MEETING OF HLG. IN THE CANADIAN VIEW,
THE PRINCIPAL USEFULNESS OF PARAGRAPH 34 IS TWOFOLD:
FIRST, EDUCATIONAL IN THAT IT INTERPRETS FOR MINISTERS
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF DEFICIENCIES IN CURRENT TNF POSTURE
TO NATO'S SECURITY; AND SECONDLY, IT SERVES AS A NATURAL
LINK AS TO THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE ON WHICH THE HLG HAD

REACHED A CONSENSUS DURING ITS MEETINGS AND WHICH THE
REPORT ADDRESSES IN SUBSEQUENT SECTIONS. CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES ALSO REGRET THAT PARAGRAPH 63 WAS NOT MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ON MARCH 17 AND THAT PARAGRAPH 64 WAS NOT REDRAFTED, IN PARTICULAR THE SECOND RECOMMENDATION. END TEXT. BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, ALLIANCE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO03220
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780136-0649
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780311/aaaaajcp.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 429724b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 74758
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3127179
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NPG: CANADIAN COMMENTS ON HIGH LEVEL GROUP REPORT
TAGS: MNUC, CA, NATO, NPG
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/429724b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014